

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 418

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the members of the Woodbury Lions Club on the occasion of the Club's 70th anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to commend those public service organizations whose members have banded together to serve their communities, state and nation through community service projects and other activities of regional, national and even international scope; and

WHEREAS, the Lions Clubs International has adopted as its objects: to create and foster a spirit of understanding among peoples of the world; to promote the principles of good government and good citizenship; to take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community; to provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members; and to encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Woodbury Lions Club, which will observe its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in June of this year, is an active and vital part of Lions International, and has furnished two International Presidents; the Club has increased its founding membership by a factor of five times since its beginning; and

WHEREAS, in June of 1935, Minor Bragg, a former resident of Cannon County from Murfreesboro and Deputy District Governor, addressed a small group of men gathered in Lee Baker's Drug Store about Lionism and its goals; on June 21, 1935, 21 men met in S. D. Wooten's Grocery Store and formed the Woodbury Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, Hayden Smith was the charter president and other officers were D. F. Williams, William Bragg, T. H. Bratten, Charles Hawkins, Lee Baker, and C. B. Stone; the other charter members were James E. Campbell, H. S. Barrett, S.M. Jennings, O. R. Holley, Walter L. McCrary, S. D. Wooten, Dr. C. M. Grizzle, Alfred Roach, Gail Knudsen, James H. Cummings, L. H. McCrary, M. Fine, Jack Davenport, and J. T. Alexander; and

WHEREAS, a young school teacher, Walter H. "Squint" Campbell, joined the club and after later moving to Miami, became the 49<sup>th</sup> President of Lions International; in 1988-89, Austin Jennings was the 72<sup>nd</sup> International President after serving as District Governor in 1971-72 and as International Director in 1976-78. Mr. Jennings is internationally recognized as the "Father of SightFirst"; and

WHEREAS, over the course of its life, Woodbury Lions Club has been privileged by the visits of seven International Presidents and several International Directors; and

WHEREAS, for the first decade of its life, the Club met in the library of Good Samaritan Hospital and later met in Clara's Café, the Tea Room, Golden Spur, and Adams Memorial Library; since 1980, Lions Memorial Building has been its permanent home; and

WHEREAS, carrying out the goals of Lions International, the Woodbury Lions Club early projects included promotion of Armour Creameries and the dairy industry; giving registered bull calves to farmers to upgrade their herd quality; and developing Lions Field as a space for the fairgrounds, football field, horse show ring, little league fields, the 4-H building, health department, community building and swimming pool. Following World War II, the Club secured the location of Colonial Corp. in Woodbury and provided money for the first payroll; and

WHEREAS, Woodbury Lions Club's ongoing projects include providing eye testing in the school system, purchasing glasses for the needy, and providing treatment and surgery for needy citizens of Cannon County; supporting the PhotoScreening program of the Tennessee Lions Eye Center; supporting the Boy Scout and Cub Scout programs, assisting with 4-H work in the County, and sponsoring students to Boys State and Girls State; being the platinum sponsor of the Lincoln Gannon Memorial Playground at Brown Spurlock Park; and sponsoring the Citizenship Award for an outstanding senior at Cannon County High School and the tour of homes, Christmas Parade and Christmas lighting; and

WHEREAS, other ongoing projects include the walking track at Dillon Park, sponsorship of the Lioness and Leo Clubs at Cannon County High School and various elementary schools, the annual horse show, which is a major fund-raising project, and the October solicitation of donations during "White Cane Days" to fund district and state projects such as the Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service; and

WHEREAS, the Woodbury Lions Club has been a consistent leader in district and State projects and for several years has earned the ranking of Superior Club for its outstanding performance; the Club was among the first to pledge \$100,000 to the Tennessee Lions Eye Center at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, placing it in the Founders Club; and

WHEREAS, the history and achievements of Woodbury Lions Club during its lifetime clearly are worthy of our commendation and thanks; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the officers and members of Woodbury Lions Club in celebrating 70 years of superior accomplishments and outstanding service to their community of Woodbury and Cannon County, the State of Tennessee, their nation and the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we thank them for their many contributions and offer them our best wishes for much continued success and satisfaction in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.